



# KANSAS

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

BILL GRAVES, GOVERNOR

Clyde D. Graeber, Secretary

March 28, 2002

Site: BNSF-Newton Tar Pits  
ID #: KSNOOD 704373  
Break: LD  
Other: 3-28-2002

Mr. Don Lininger  
U.S. EPA Region VII, Superfund Division  
901 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

40227247



SUPERFUND RECORDS

RE: ~~Pre-CERCLIS~~ Screening Checklist, Initiation Form and Site Disposition Form for  
the Burlington Northern/Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF) Newton Tar Pits Site, Newton,  
Harvey County, Kansas  
KDHE I.D. No. C204071582

Dear Mr. Lininger:

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is submitting the above documents for the BNSF-Newton Tar Pits site in Newton, Harvey County, Kansas. The site was identified upon investigation of the nearby BNSF-Newton Oil Separator site and is also related to the BNSF-Newton rail yard facility. BNSF has also committed to entering this site into the Voluntary Cleanup and Property Redevelopment Program (VCPRP). If you have any questions relative to this site, please feel free to contact me at (785) 296-8065.

Sincerely,

Randolph L. Brown  
Unit Chief, Site Assessment Unit  
Remedial Section  
Bureau of Environmental Remediation

rlb/attachments  
c: Site Decision file

RECEIVED

APR 26 2002

SUPERFUND DIVISION

# PRE-CERCLIS SCREENING ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST/DECISION FORM

This checklist can assist the site investigator during the Pre-CERCLIS screening. It will be used to determine whether further steps in the site investigation process are required under CERCLA. Use additional sheets, if necessary.

Checklist Preparer: William R. Dodd April 9, 2002  
 (Name/Title) (Date)  
KDHE/BER, Building 740 Forbes Field, Topeka, KS 66620-0001 785-296-8063  
 (Address) (Phone)  
bdodd@kdhe.state.us  
 (E-Mail Address)

Site Name: BNSF - NEWTON TAR PIT SITE

Previous Names (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Site Location: 206 W. 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 (Street)  
Newton, Kansas 67114  
 (City)

Legal Location: NE Quarter, SW Quarter, SE Quarter of Section 17, Township 23 South, Range 01 East

## Complete the following checklist.

	YES	NO
1. Does the site already appear in CERCLIS?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
2. Is the release from products that are part of the structure of, and result in exposure within, residential buildings, businesses or community structures?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
3. Does the site consist of a release of naturally occurring substances in its unaltered form, or altered solely through naturally occurring processes or phenomena, from a location where it is found naturally?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
4. Is the release into a public or private drinking water supply due to deterioration of the system through ordinary use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
5. Is some other program actively involved with the site (i.e. another Federal, State, or Tribal program)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
6. Are the hazardous substances potentially released at the site regulated under a statutory exclusion (i.e., petroleum, natural gas, natural gas liquids, synthetic gas usable for fuel, normal application of fertilizer, release located in a workplace, naturally occurring, or regulated by the NRC, UMTRCA, or OSHA)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
7. Are the hazardous substance potentially released at the site excluded by policy considerations (e.g., deferral to RCRA Corrective Action)?	X	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Does sufficient documentation exist that clearly demonstrates that there is no potential for release that could cause adverse environmental or human health impacts (e.g., comprehensive remedial investigation equivalent data showing no release above ARARs, completed removal action, previous HRS score determined, ASTM Phase I, II, etc. completed, EPA approved risk assessment completed)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	X

Please explain: No. 5: The Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (BNSF) has expressed a willingness to participate in the KDHE Voluntary Cleanup and Property Redevelopment Program (VCPRP). No. 7: A pipe within one of the pits may transport fuel for locomotives. No. 8: A hardened tar-like substance was observed on the sides of the pits.

Regional EPA Reviewer: Don Liniger 10/22/02  
 Print Name/Signature Date

State Agency/Tribe: William R. Dodd 4-9-02  
 Print Name/Signature Date